▲小柄な拳奴、クァルダン

登場人物

セスタス：ローマ帝国の最下層階級の少年拳奴。生き延びるために日々の闘いを余儀なくされたが、奴隷闘士養成所の崩壊に伴い、一度は皇帝・ネロに身を買われた。現在は皇帝の元からドリスコ拳闘団に買われ、地方巡業に出発した。

ザファル：ヌミディア出身の拳奴。セスタスに拳闘の才能を見い出し、師として拳の技を教え込む。現在、ドリスコ拳闘団に訓練士として所属。

ドリスコ：ドリスコ拳闘団団長。抜け目ない商人。セスタスを５万セステルティウスで購入したと公言。

ラドック：ドリスコ拳闘団ナンバー１の拳闘士。豊かな才能と経験をもつ人物。

クァルダン：イタリア南部の華・ネアポリス（現ナポリ）の湾で働く拳奴。ヌミディアに家族を残している。セスタスに親身に接する。

JETS COMICS

拳闘暗黒伝CESTVS セスタス vol.7

WAZARAI SHIZUYA

技来静也

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技来静也の好評既刊

拳闘暗黒伝セスタス◆①～⑫巻

世界帝国となったローマを舞台に、拳奴（けんど）・セスタスの成長を通して自由を勝ち取る大切さを語るボクシング・アクション!!

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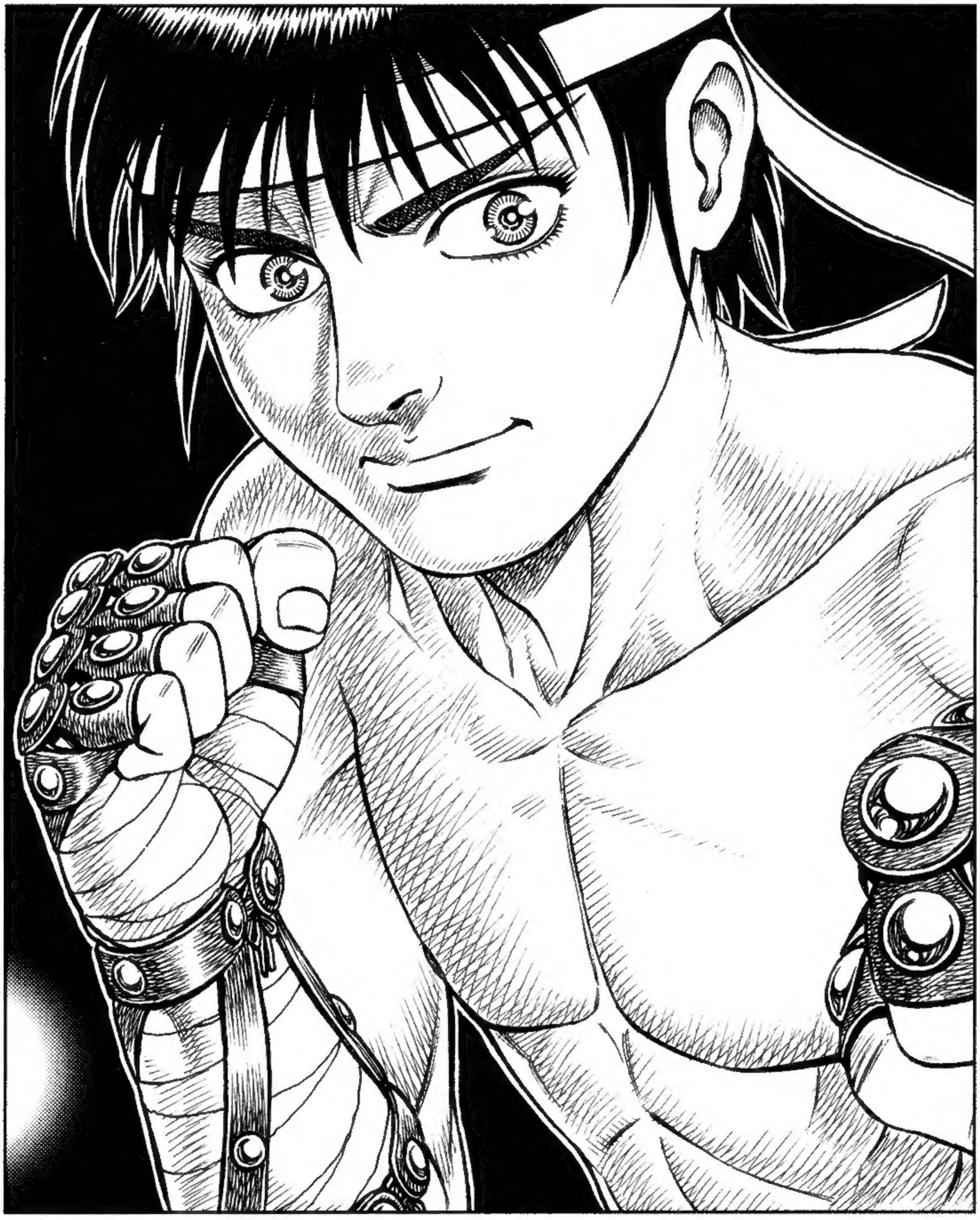
JETS COMICS

拳闘暗黒伝セスタス⑦



技来静也

拳闘暗黒伝CESTVS

セスタス

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JETS COMICS

この作品はフィクションです。実在の人物・団体・事件
などにはいっさい関係ありません。

CHAPTER XLIX: BLUE WATERS

USE YOUR LEGS, YOUR LEGS!

SHUFFLE WITH THEM BETWEEN THE BEAMS!

DON'T SLACK OFF, YOU CAN'T MOVE YOUR UPPER BODY ALONE!

PEDRO!

YOU'RE ONLY FOLLOWING WITH YOUR EYES GETTY, IT MEANS YOUR REACTIONS ARE DELAYED!

HOLD YOUR CHIN IN, KEEP LEANING FORWARD. DON'T LOWER YOUR FISTS!

IF YOU AREN'T ABLE TO DEAL WITH THESE, THERE'S NO WAY YOU'LL BE ABLE TO MEET THE ATTACKS COMING FROM YOUR OPPONENT!

THE SWAYING BEAMS ARE LIKE THE AXIS OF YOUR OPPONENT'S BODY!

ALWAYS MOVE WHILE THINKING ABOUT WHERE YOUR ENEMY WILL BE.

HE'S DONE SO DOZENS OF TIMES!

LIKE THAT, CESTVS IS ABLE TO STRIKE AT BOTH SIDES OF THE BODY.

IS HE A MONKEY...?

...

HE... HE'S SO FAST!

IT'S LIKE YOU'VE HUNG A FISHING ROD ABOVE THE ROAD.

I'D WONDERED WHY YOU WANTED TO GET THE TENT PROPS OUT...

ゴッ。。 ナィ.. ナィ.. ゴッ。。

IT HELPS TEACH THEM THE IMPORTANCE OF SELF-AWARENESS.

BUT ARE SUCH ACROBATICS REALLY USEFUL, ZAFAR?

EVEN IF ONE CAN RECITE HIGH POETRY WITHOUT UNDERSTANDING IT...

CAN THAT BE CALLED WISDOM?

RATHER THAN MAKING USE OF HUNDREDS OF DIFFERENT METHODS, OPENING THEIR EYES VIA ONE SIMPLE ONE CAN HOLD MUCH MORE VALUE.

IT'S A SIMPLE TRAINING METHOD, YET IT FOSTERS A MUCH DEEPER UNDERSTANDING. IF THEY'RE UNABLE TO GRASP SUCH MATTERS THEY MAY WELL FALL BEHIND INTO AN UNRECOVERABLE POSITION.

SO LONG AS THEY GET STRONGER IT DON'T BOTHER ME.

I LEFT THEM TO YOU AFTER ALL.

BEING ABLE TO UNDERSTAND ONE'S SKILLS FOR THE FIRST TIME IS IN ITSELF A HELP AND A STRENGTH.

MASTERY AND WISDOM ARE TWO ENTIRELY DIFFERENT THINGS.

ナィ..

ナィ..

I'LL SEE THE PROOF OF YOUR RESULTS THEN.

THEY'LL SOON BE CHOSEN AS APPRENTICES.

ハァ ハァ

GEEEH, I FEEL SICK.

ハァ ハァ ハァ ハァ

HURRY UP AND GET ON YOU BRATS!

WE'RE COMING UP TO THE BEACH.

WHAT'RE YOU DOING CESTVS?

ARE YOU A DOG...?

HAVE A GO FOR YOURSELF, THE WIND HAS A DIFFERENT SMELL TO IT!

レロ...

...

HM?

HM?

IT'S A SEA BREEZE.

WE'RE NEAR THE SEA.

OOH.

YOU'RE RIGHT. IT'S FAINT BUT...

NOPE.

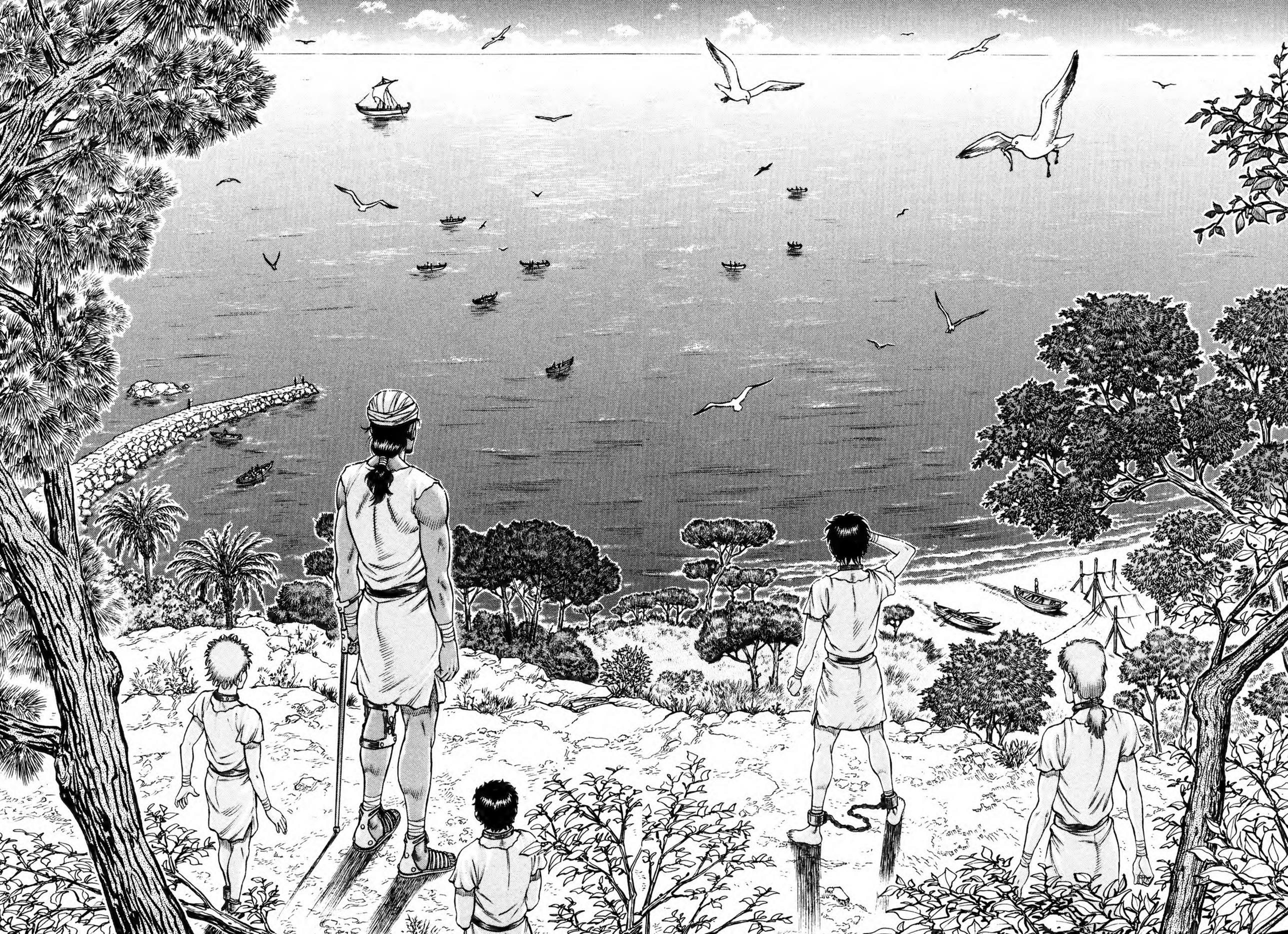
RATHER BLUNTLY!

THUMP

THUMP

THE... THE OCEAN?!

HUH, YOU AIN'T SEEN IT BEFORE?



IT WAS A GRAND, HEAVENLY, DESTINATION-LESS HORIZON.

IT WAS THE FIRST TIME HE HAD SEEN THE OCEAN.

EACH TIME YOU WERE SO MOVED AS TO TAKE A BREATH...

IT WERE AS THOUGH YOUR CHEST WERE DYED BLUE BY THE AZURE PANORAMA.

IT MIGHT WELL BE THAT THE OCEAN IS IN FACT MORE VAST THAN THE LAND.

...

IS IT REALLY ALL JUST WATER...?

COR-RECT.

FOR REAL?!

IT TAKES A BOAT MANY DAYS TO REACH THE OPPOSITE SHORE.

HOW CAN YOU SAY THAT SO DECISIVELY WITHOUT ACTUALLY SEEING IT?!

WHAT?

I AIN'T, BUT I FIGURED IT HAS TO BE!

HAVE YOU SEEN IT PEDRO?

I KNOW WHAT, THE VERY EDGE IS ALL LAND.

?

THAT WOULD BE THE DOMAIN OF THE GODS, THERE ARE NO HUMANS WHO COULD CONFIRM IT.

HOLD ON A SEC. WHAT EXACTLY WOULD HAPPEN IF YOU GOT TO THE EDGE OF IT ALL?!

?

?

THE OUTSIDE?

YET THE WATER FROM THE OCEAN DOESN'T LEAK TO THE OUTSIDE!

WOULDN'T WATER LEAVE A BOWL WITHOUT AN EDGE?

YOU LOT ARE IDIOTS!

IT'S SO BIG THAT ONLY THE GODS CAN SEE THE ENTIRETY OF IT.

THE WORLD'S GOT TO BE LIKE A GIGANTIC PLATE.

I'D IMAGINE IT HAS TO BE MORE OCEAN.

SO, WHAT'S AT THE END OF THOSE OTHER LANDS THEN?

YOU SURE KNOW YOUR STUFF PEDRO.

MMM, JUST LEAVE IT TO ME!

ゴゴ

IT'S A PUZZLE WHICH SURPASSES HUMAN UNDERSTANDING, YET THERE ARE NUMEROUS RASH MISUNDERSTANDINGS SURROUNDING IT.

ONE SHOULD FIRST HOLD DOUBT BEFORE BLINDLY ACCEPTING SOMETHING.

ゴゴ

I'VE HEARD TALK OF SAILORS WHO DISAPPEARED AT SEA, ONLY TO RETURN ALIVE, COMING FROM CONTINENTS IN THE OPPOSITE DIRECTION TO THE ONE THEY SET OFF FROM.

INDEED ALL OF THE WORLD'S OCEANS MAY ACTUALLY BE ONE.

WOULD FULLY EXPLAIN THE NATURE OF THE SPHERICAL EARTH.

IT WOULD BE MANY YEARS BEFORE HUMANITY...

ゴゴ

ゴゴ

WE'VE FINALLY MADE IT BOSS.

HEHEHE. LET'S HAVE SOME FRESH SEAFOOD TONIGHT!

ゴゴ

ゴゴ

ROMAN CITY OF NEAPOLIE (MODERN DAY NAPLES).

ITALY'S SOUTHERN FLOWER.

THE EMPIRE'S PRE-EMINENT TRADING PORT.

IT WAS ESTABLISHED AS A COLONY DURING GREECE'S GOLDEN AGE AND HOLDS A LONG HISTORY AS A TRADE PORT.

PRIOR TO THE ROMAN CONQUEST, GREEK CULTURE BLOSSOMED IN THE THE PICTURESQUE GULF OF NAPLES.

IT WAS A WINDOW TO THE EMPIRE, OVERFLOWING WITH DAZZLING SUNLIGHT AND LIVELINESS.

AND THE GENERAL HUSTLE AND BUSTLE...

FROM THE WHARFS WHERE BOATS CAME BEARING GOODS FROM ROME'S PROVINCES...

INDEED DISPUTES AMONGST SAILORS MADE FOR A COMMON DAILY SCENE

AND MARINE PRODUCTS...

TO THE TRADE OF GOODS...

TO THE MULTITUDE OF LANGUAGES SPOKEN...

I WAS STARTING TO GET ANNOYED. I FIGURED AN IDIOT LIKE YOU WOULD JUST BE OFF EATING.

SO, YOU FINALLY GOT YOUR ASS HERE DRISCO!

IF YOU COULDN'T BEAR TO WAIT YOU SHOULDA GONE AND DROPPED DEAD!

SHUT YOUR MOUTH YOU SHITTY OLD BASTARD!

STILL TRYING TO ACT THE BIG SHOT EEEH!

TCH. IT SEEMS YOU AIN'T LOST ANY WEIGHT. I FEEL BAD FOR YOUR HORSES.

WE CAN GO STRAIGHT TO THE TAVERN, YOU NO GOOD DRUNK.

HAH.

HEHEHE.

I'M MUCH OBLIGED THOUGH, JIMENEZ.

LET'S GET A DRINK, WE'VE A LOT TO TALK ABOUT.

WELL, FOR THE TIME BEING WE'LL BE STUCK AT THE STOCKHOUSE AS LABOURERS.

IT'LL PROBABLY BE TWO, THREE DAYS.

WHEN WILL THE FIGHTS START RADDOCK?

THE BOSS IS HAVING A CHAT WITH A LOCAL BIG SHOT.

LABOURERS?

WE WON'T HAVE ANY TIME TO PRACTICE.

SLAVES HAVE NO FREE TIME AS IS.

YOU'D BEST PREPARE YOURSELF FOR IT, YOU WON'T BE USED TO SUCH WORK.

THEY'RE ALWAYS SHORT STAFFED AT PORTS.

WE'LL BE LOADING AND UNLOADING SHIPS.

NEEDLESS TO SAY A TON OF CASH WILL BE MOVING HANDS THERE, IT'LL BE A FANTASTIC EVENT.

A LARGE GLADIATORIAL CONTEST WILL BE HELD IN A WEEK'S TIME.

LET ME POUR YOU ANOTHER SERVING, SIR.

HMM, HMM.

WE CAN EACH SEND OUT A BOXER, AND RAKE IN THE CASH DRISCO!

THE HIGHEST PRICE WILL OF COURSE GO TO THE ARMED GLADIATORS, HOWEVER YOU CANNOT HOLD A LARGE EVENT WITHOUT AN APPETIZER.

INDEED, I'VE ARRANGED TO OPEN THINGS WITH SOME SLAVE BOXERS.

AAAH, IT DON'T SOUND TOO BAD.

I TAKE IT YOU'LL JOIN ME?

JUST TAKE PART! ARE YOU TRYING TO SHY AWAY FROM DEFEAT?!

HAH!

BUT IT IS IN ONE'S BEST INTERESTS TO STAY AWAY FROM PERSONAL BETS, ISN'T IT JIMENEZ.

BY MAKING SUCH TRADES IT DOESN'T EXACTLY SHOW YOU TO BE A SKILLED GAMBLER.

THIS IS QUITE TRIVIAL, HE REALLY IS JUST LOOKING FOR REVENGE.

TCH.

I ABSOLUTELY WON'T LET YOU QUIT WHILE YOU'RE AHEAD!

I WON'T ALLOW IT THIS TIME!

LISTEN! I SUFFERED A GREAT LOSS TO YOUR RADDOCK BEFORE!

AAH, I GET IT.

YOU NEEDN'T GET SO BOTHERED.

MM!

THE OLD GEEZER NEVER LEARNS.

OKAY, IT'S SETTLED THEN! DRINK AS MUCH AS YOU WANT!

LET'S TOAST AGAIN!

I SHOULD BE ABLE TO PULL ONE OVER HIM QUITE NICELY...

I'LL EVEN MAKE USE OF "THAT ONE" THIS TIME...

THEY'RE WORTH FAR MORE THAN YOU ARE!

CARRY THEM CAREFULLY!

WHATEVER YOU DO, DON'T DROP THEM!

EACH BAG IS A PRECIOUS ITEM WHICH TOOK GREAT EFFORT TO IMPORT!

!

AH YEAH, COME TO MENTION IT, WASN'T MASTER'S BIRTH PLACE...

A FOREIGN COUNTRY BY THE SEA?

JUST WHAT COULD HE BE RE-CALLING...?

EH?!

OI, THE HELL'RE YOU STOPPING THERE FOR!

AH!

FU

UGIH!

WAAAAAAAAH!

WAH.

ARGH!

YOU BLOODY IDIOT DON'T DROP IT!

CHUCK IT HERE!

HHHO

?

GUTGLE.

WAS HIS PACKAGE OKAY?

A KID FELL IN.

MM, SOMEHOW.

THEN IT'S FINE, GET BACK TO WORK!

BESIDES, ONLY AN EXPERT COULD SWIM FULLY CLOTHED WITH CHAINS ON.

NAH, IF HE GETS FLUSTERED IT'LL WEAKEN HIM.

FORGET HIM, IT AIN'T TOO DEEP.

THE KID MIGHT BE STRONG ENOUGH TO COME BACK UP ON HIS OWN.

ゴボゴボ

MASTER!

HELP ME!

ゴボゴボ

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ガチャ

OI, KALDAN!

I GUESS I'LL GO.

WHERE?!

WHERE DID HE FALL?!

ザバーン

!

NOT SO ROUGH, HE WAS OVER THERE.

WHERE IS HE?!

THAT CLUMBY KID, HE FELL IN THE SEA.

...

I CAN'T DIE LIKE THIS...

NO...

NOT HERE...

HHHOFFF

PHEW.

CESTVS!

OUT OF THE WAY, HE NEEDS TO COUGH UP THE WATER!

GOOD GRIEF.

OF NEAPOLIE'S SEA WATER.

THOUGH IT LOOKS LIKE HE DRANK ENOUGH...

HIS PULSE?

DON'T WORRY, HE AIN'T GONNA DIE NOW.

SH... SHO SHALTY!

BLEGH!

IT AIN'T NOTHING LIKE... SWIMMING IN THE RIVER.

WASSAT KID, YOUR FIRST TIME IN THE SEA?

AT LEAST THAT'S ONE GOOD THING!

AS YOU CAN TELL FROM THE TASTE, SEA WATER IS SALTY.

I DOUBT YOU'LL EVER FORGET IT NOW.

THIS ONE'S CESTVS.

THANK YOU FOR SAVING MY DISCIPLE.

SAY THANKS, IDIOT.

T... THANK YOU.

I AM ZAFAR OF NUMIDIA.

OH.

WHAT...?

...

IT'S BEEN A LONG TIME SINCE I RAN INTO SOMEONE FROM MY HOMELAND!

I'M KALDAN OF NUMIDIA.

IT'S A PLEASURE.

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